

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 AF-08 ARA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00

ACDA-07 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NASA-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 MC-02 DHA-02 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 /136 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0227

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION NATO

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4802

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UNGA

SUBJ: UNGA DISARMAMENT: INFORMAL MEETING OF BARTON GROUP

REF: NATO 5421

1. AT INFORMAL PRELIMINARY MEETING OF BARTON GROUP (US, EC-9, JAPAN, NORWAY, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND) OCTOBER 26, WORKING-LEVEL REPS REVIEWED RECENT DEVELOPMENTS BEARING ON UPCOMING DISARMAMENT DEBATE. DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON CHEMICAL
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WEAPONS (CW), COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN (CTB), ENVIRONMENTAL

MODIFICATION, NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE, INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE, SPECIAL UNGA SESSION ON DISARMAMENT, AND SEABED TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE. SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF THESE AND OTHER DISARMAMENT ISSUES IS SCHEDULED FOR AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL BARTON GROUP MEETING AFTERNOON OCTOBER 29.

2. CW CANADIAN REP (JAY) CONFIRMED CANADIAN DESIRE TO TAKE LEADING ROLE WITH REGARD TO CW ON BASIS OF UK DRAFT RESOLUTION CIRCULATED AT NATO (REFTEL). JAY RECOGNIZED POSSIBLE PROCEDURAL COMPLICATIONS INVOLVED, IN THAT POLAND HAS TRADITIONALLY TAKEN LEAD IN PREPARING RESOLUTION, AND NOTED THAT NOT ALL WESTERN COUNTRIES (E.G., US) HAD TAKEN FINAL POSITION ON SUBSTANTIVE ELEMENTS OF UK DRAFT. HE INDICATED CANADIAN DEL WOULD GO SLOW, DOING NO MORE AT THIS STAGE THAN SEEKING TO FIND OUT WHAT POLES, AND POSSIBLY YUGOSLAVS, EXPECT TO DO THIS YEAR. HE WOULD NOT EVEN INDICATED TO OTHERS THAT CANADA HAD A DRAFT RESOLUTION. FRG (BAUCH) AND ITALIAN (LAY) REPS SAID THEY WERE PREPARED TO SUPPORT CANADIAN EFFORT. JAY SAID CANADIANS WOULD WELCOME SUGGESTIONS, ESPECIALLY FROM US, ON ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS THAT COULD BE INCLUDED IN CANADIAN DRAFT.

3. CTB. NEW ZEALAND REP (DENNIS) REPORTED THAT NEW ZEALAND HAD DECIDED TO TAKE LEAD IN PREPARING CTB RES THIS YEAR, TOGETHER WITH AUSTRALIA, SWEDEN, NETHERLANDS, JAPAN, AND CANADA, IN ORDER TO FORESTALL MORE RADICAL MEXICAN RESOLUTION AND TO TRY TO INCORPORATE "POSITIVE ELEMENTS," SUCH AS REFERENCE TO US-SOVIET THRESHOLD TEST BAN AND PNE TREATIES. SHE AND AUSTRALIAN REP (OXLEY) STRESSED IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACH TO DEVELOPING SINGLE, WIDELY ACCEPTABLE CTB RESOLUTION AS COUNTER TO EXPECTED SOVIET RESOLUTION UNDER THEIR ITEM ON "GENERAL AND COMPLETE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR-WEAPON TESTS," WITH ITS OBJECTIONABLE ELEMENTS OF (A) CIRCUMVENTING THE CCD AND (B) REQUIRING PARTICIPATION OF ALL NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES FROM THE BEGINNING IN ANY BAN. THEY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT RES WOULD "CONDEMN" NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS, ARGUING THAT THIS WAS NECESSARY TO GAIN MEXICAN AND HENCE SUBSTANTIAL NONALIGNED SUPPORT. THOUGH PARTICIPATING IN THE DRAFTING, CONFIDENTIAL

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DUTCH (MEERBURG) AND JAPANESE (WATANABE) REPS EXPRESSED OBJECTIONS TO CONDEMNATORY LANGUAGE, AS DID FRG, UK, US, AND FRENCH REPS. JAY EXPRESSED VIEW THAT CONDEMNATION OF TESTS WAS NOT INAPPROPRIATE. UK REP (TAYLOR) EXPRESSED PARTICULAR CONCERN OVER SITUATION IN WHICH RESPONSIBLE WESTERN DELEGATIONS TAKE LEAD IN INJECTING CONTROVERSIAL AND EXTREME POSITIONS INTO DISARMAMENT DEBATE, EVEN IN ADVANCE OF INDICATIONS THAT MEXICO WILL AGAIN INSIST ON

RADICAL ELEMENTS. MEERBURG SAID DUTCH WERE PREPARED TO MAKE ACTIVE EFFORT TO DEVELOP MODERATE RESOLUTION THAT MIGHT BE SUPPORTED BY NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES, BUT ONLY IF SOVIETS DO NOT PRESS AHEAD WITH THEIR ITEM. FRG, UK AND JAPANESE REPS EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST IN THIS POSSIBILITY.

4. NPT REVCON AND NONPROLIFERATION. MEERBURG REPORTED THAT SWEDES ARE AWAITING FINAL INSTRUCTIONS ON DRAFT TEXT OF NPT REVCON RESOLUTION BEFORE DISCUSSING IT WITH OTHERS; HE WAS NOT CERTAIN WHETHER SWEDES WOULD TAKE "MINIMALIST" COURSE (SIMPLY ACKNOWLEDGING RESULTS OF NPT REVCON) OR MAXIMALIST EFFORT TO COVER WHOLE RANGE OF NONPROLIFERATION ISSUES. MEERBURG SUGGESTED THAT POSSIBILITY OF STATEMENT BY FIRST COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SUMMARIZING DISCUSSION, RATHER THAN FORMAL RESOLUTION, BE KEPT IN MIND IF ISSUE PROMISES TO RESULT IN IRRECONCILABLE CONFRONTATION. ALL WHO SPOKE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF ACHIEVING AT LEAST ONE RESOLUTION ON NONPROLIFERATION ACCEPTABLE TO NPT PARTIES GENERALLY, INCLUDING US, USSR, AND UK.

5. IOPZ. OXLEY, AS MEMBER OF INDIAN OCEAN AD HOC COMMITTEE, NOTED POSSIBILITY THAT SOVIETS OR THEIR FRIENDS MIGHT SEEK AMENDMENT TO DRAFT IOPZ RESOLUTION TO FOCUS IT ON "ELIMINATION" OF FOREIGN MILITARY BASES." HE THOUGHT ANY SUCH EFFORT WOULD RUN INTO VIGOROUS OPPOSITION FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS, INCLUDING UNGA PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE PERSONALLY, AND WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO SUCCEED. DUTCH AND CANADIAN REPS EXPRESSED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN POSSIBILITY OF ANY MODIFICATION IN US POSITION IN RESPONSE TO NEW SOVIET ATTITUDE. US REP NOTED THAT IOPZ ISSUE WAS UNDER STUDY.

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6. SPECIAL SESSION. CANADIAN, NEW ZEALAND, JAPANESE, ITALIAN, AND UK REPS INDICATED THEY WOULD GENERALLY TAKE OPEN-MINDED ATTITUDE TOWARD SPECIAL SESSION IDEA, BUT WOULD WATCH CLOSELY FOR ANY INDICATIONS THAT SESSION WOULD BE USED FOR CONFRONTATION AND POLEMICS. SEVERAL NOTED THAT YUGOSLAVS APPEAR TO BE MAKING GENUINE EFFORT TO GET SPECIAL SESSION OFF TO A GOOD START BY TRYING TO MEET WESTERN (ESPECIALLY US) AND CHINESE CONCERNS, ESPECIALLY ON QUESTION OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SESSION AND A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE. PROSPECT OF LIMITED-MEMBER PREPARATORY COMMITTEE TROUBLED SEVERAL REPS, WHO MADE CLEAR THAT THEY WOULD WANT TO BE ON THE COMMITTEE.

7. SEABED TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE. UK REP SAID HE WOULD BE TALKING WITH OTHER DEPOSITARIES OF SEABED TREATY (US

AND USSR) SHORTLY TO ARRANGE FOR MEETING OF TREATY PARTIES DURING UNGA, PROBABLY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. PURPOSE OF MEETING WOULD BE TO REACH DECISIONS ON PRECISE TIMING, VENUE, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING PREPARATORY MEETINGS AND REVCON ITSELF, SCHEDULED FOR NEXT SUMMER. HE ALSO SAID UK WAS PREPARED TO SUGGEST FINNISH AMB. PASTINEN AS PRESIDENT OF REVCON, ADDING THAT PASTINEN HAD PRIVATELY CONFIRMED HIS WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT THE POST.
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